

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS - 52203

3. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  are most intense in the range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in the  $2 \theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram

9. A choline ascorbate obtainable by a process defined according to claim 6.

10. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to claim 1 for producing drugs.

11. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to claim 1 as additive in foods, animal feeds, or as a component in food supplements.

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## MARKED VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS - 52203

3. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1 [either of claims 1 or 2], wherein the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  are most intense in the range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in the  $2 \theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram
9. A choline ascorbate obtainable by a process defined according to claim 6 [one of claims 6 to 8].
10. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 or 9] for producing drugs.
11. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to claim 1 [one of claims 1 or 9] as additive in foods, animal feeds, or as a component in food supplements.

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CLAIMS AS FILED - 52203

1. A crystalline choline ascorbate
2. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1 in the form of crystals free from water of crystallization.
3. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  are most intense in the range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in the  $2 \theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram
4. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  is at least  $0.5$ .
5. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.67 \text{ \AA}$  is at least  $0.4$ .
6. A process for preparing crystalline choline ascorbate by reacting ascorbic acid with trimethylamine and ethylene oxide, which comprises carrying out the reaction in the temperature range from  $-105^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $405^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
7. A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the reaction is carried out in a water-miscible organic solvent.
8. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein choline ascorbate is crystallized in the solvent used for the reaction.
9. A choline ascorbate obtainable by a process defined according to claim 6.
10. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to claim 1 for producing drugs.
11. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to claim 1 as additive in foods, animal feeds, or as a component in food supplements.